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State Prisons Turning into De Facto Mental Health Institutions: A Comparative Look at the Illinois and Nebraska State Prison Systems

Margaret Kramer

This Comment discusses the systems of approaching mental health in Nebraska and Illinois state prison systems. Starting with how prison systems became some of the largest de facto mental health institutes in the country after deinstitutionalization happened on a national scale. It will then provide the guidelines and regulations in place for both Nebraska and Illinois. This Comment will then discuss what regulations would be most beneficial and how some of these can help in continuing after an individual is released from prison.
Special thanks to Professor Therese A. Clarke Arado and Sharon Nelson. You are pivotal to our success.